



AREA CLOSED TO PUBLIC:

All Francis Marion National Forest area roads, sites and general forest areas will be closed due to anticipated hurricane and flooding, effective 8:00 am, Thursday, October 6th through 12 noon, Tuesday, October 11th to provide for public safety. Areas will only be open for evacuation routes and emergency response. Conditions will be assessed on Tuesday, October 11th. Please call 843-336-2200 before returning to the Forest.

“Per Francis Marion & Sumter National Forests order (36 CFR 261.53f)- Violations could result in \$5000 fine, 6 months’ imprisonment, or both”.

Current National Weather Service projections call for the weather event to reach Charleston, SC on Friday, October 7, 2016.

- This is to ensure public safety and effective emergency operations.
- The storm events is expected to bring heavy rain and high winds which will make backcountry travel and camping extremely hazardous due to swollen streams, dangerous crossing, and potential flooding. Road systems will be vulnerable to wash outs and compromised road shoulders.
- High winds are predicted that will cause trees and limbs to blow down in campgrounds, along trail systems and across roads.
- Ability to conduct Search and Rescue operations will not be possible Friday/Saturday during the height of the storm.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Rhea Whalen, District Ranger, Francis Marion National Forest

843-412-3571